

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims so as to read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus comprising a manual feed unit including:
 - (i) a feed tray,
 - (ii) a pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction, and
 - (iii) a supporting body for supporting the pair of conveying rollers, wherein
~~the sheet conveying apparatus conveying~~ said manual feed unit conveys a the sheet placed on the feed tray via a conveying path through which the said sheet is conveyed by the said pair of conveying rollers,
the supporting body including includes:
 - (a) a first unit having one of the said pair of conveying rollers and
 - (b) a second unit having the other of the said pair of conveying rollers, and
the said first unit and the said second unit being are separable from each other.
2. (Currently Amended) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 1,
wherein:
~~the said first unit and the said second unit are separated~~ separable in a direction
substantially parallel to the said conveying path.
3. (Currently Amended) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 1,
wherein:
one of ~~the said~~ first unit and ~~the said~~ second unit is ~~detached~~ detachable in a
direction opposite a sheet conveying direction.

4. (Currently Amended) The sheet conveying apparatus ~~as set forth in claim 1~~, comprising:

(i) a pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying said sheet
in a predetermined direction, and

(ii) a supporting body for supporting the pair of conveying rollers,
wherein:

said sheet conveying apparatus conveys said sheet via a conveying path through
which said sheet is conveyed by said pair of conveying rollers,

said supporting body includes:

(a) a first unit having one of said pair of conveying rollers, and

(b) a second unit having the other of said pair of conveying rollers, and

said first unit and said second unit are separable from each other, and

wherein:

at least one of the said pair of conveying rollers separated is supported
on the said first unit or the said second unit by a movable supporting
member in such a manner that the at least one of the said pair of
conveying rollers is movable in a direction substantially parallel to a
direction of separating the said first unit and the said second unit.

5. (Currently Amended) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 4,
wherein:

~~the~~ said movable supporting member includes:

- (i) a positioning and supporting block connected to a ~~bearing~~ bearing to which ~~the~~ said at least one of ~~the~~ said pair of conveying rollers is connected, and
- (ii) a tension spring ~~whose~~ having one end is connected to a conveying guide of one of ~~the~~ said first unit and ~~the~~ said second unit ~~and the other end connected to said positioning and supporting block;~~

~~the~~ said one of ~~the~~ said first unit and ~~the~~ said second unit ~~having the~~ includes said movable supporting member, ~~and whose the other end connected to the positioning and supporting block;~~

~~the~~ said positioning and supporting block ~~has~~ includes a convex guide portion;

~~the~~ said conveying guide has a guide hole along which ~~the~~ said convex guide ~~convex~~ portion is movable in a horizontal direction; and

when ~~the~~ said positioning and supporting block is moved in accordance with a pressure applied in the horizontal direction, ~~the~~ said tension spring is contracted or expanded, so as to allow ~~the~~ said convex guide ~~convex~~ portion to move in the horizontal direction along ~~the~~ said guide hole.

6. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 5, further comprising:

a positioning convex portion provided to a one of said first unit and said second unit that ~~the other unit, which is the first unit or the second unit, and which~~ does not have the movable supporting member, wherein

when ~~the~~ said positioning and supporting block is moved in accordance with a pressure applied by ~~the~~ said positioning convex portion, ~~the~~ said tension spring ~~being is~~ contracted or expanded; so as to allow ~~the~~ said convex guide ~~convex~~ portion to move in the horizontal direction along ~~the~~ said guide hole.

7. (Currently Amended) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 4, wherein:
the said roller supported by the said movable supporting member is a driven roller.

8. (Currently Amended) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 1,
wherein:
only one of the said first unit and the said second unit is a movable unit when
the said first unit and the said second unit are separated from each other;
and
one of the said pair of conveying rollers is mounted to the said movable unit and
driven.

9. (Currently Amended) A sheet conveying apparatus comprising:

- (i) a first pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction,
- (ii) a second pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction, the said first pair of the conveying rollers and the said second pair of conveying rollers facing each other, and
- (iii) supporting bodies for respectively supporting the said first pair of conveying rollers

and the said second pair of conveying rollers, wherein

the said sheet conveying apparatus ~~conveying~~ includes a first conveying path and a second conveying path, said first conveying path and said second conveying path facing one another, and

said sheet conveying apparatus conveys sheets ~~a sheet~~ through a said first conveying path and a said second conveying path, the said first conveying path ~~being a~~ conveying path through which a sheet is conveyed by the said first pair of conveying rollers, the said second conveying path ~~being a~~ conveying path through which a sheet is conveyed by the said second pair of conveying rollers, and said the second conveying path being connected with the said first conveying path in a downstream of the said first pair of conveying rollers provided in the said first conveying path,

the said supporting bodies ~~including~~ include:

- (a) a third unit ~~having supporting~~ said the first pair of conveying rollers and one of the said second pair of conveying rollers, and
- (b) a fourth unit ~~having supporting~~ the other of the said second pair of conveying rollers, and

the said third unit and the said fourth unit ~~being~~ are separable from each other.

10. (Currently Amended) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 9, wherein:

~~the said~~ third unit and ~~the said~~ fourth unit are separable ~~separated~~ in a direction substantially parallel to ~~the said~~ first conveying path and ~~the said~~ second conveying path.

11. (Currently Amended) The sheet conveying apparatus ~~as set forth in claim 9~~, comprising:

- (i) a first pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction,
- (ii) a second pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction, ~~the said~~ first pair of the conveying rollers and ~~the said~~ second pair of conveying rollers facing each other, and
- (iii) supporting bodies for respectively supporting ~~the said~~ first pair of conveying rollers and ~~the said~~ second pair of conveying rollers, wherein

~~the said~~ sheet conveying apparatus ~~conveying~~ conveys ~~sheets~~ ~~a sheet~~ through a said first conveying path and a said second conveying path, ~~the said~~ first conveying path being a conveying path through which a sheet is conveyed by ~~the said~~ first pair of conveying rollers, ~~the said~~ second conveying path being a conveying path through which a sheet is conveyed by ~~the said~~ second pair of conveying rollers, and said the second conveying path being connected with ~~the said~~ first conveying path ~~in a downstream of the said~~ first pair of conveying rollers provided in the said first conveying path,

~~the said~~ supporting bodies ~~including~~ include:

- (a) a third unit having the first pair of conveying rollers and one of ~~the said~~ second pair of conveying rollers, and
- (b) a fourth unit having the other of ~~the said~~ second pair of conveying rollers, and

~~the said~~ third unit and ~~the said~~ fourth unit ~~being are~~ separable from each other, and
~~further~~ wherein:

one of ~~the said~~ third unit and ~~the said~~ fourth unit is detached in a direction opposite to a
sheet conveying direction.

12. (Currently Amended) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 9 ~~11~~, wherein:

at least one of ~~the said second~~ pair of conveying rollers ~~separated~~ is supported on ~~the said~~
third unit or ~~the said~~ fourth unit by a movable supporting member in such a
manner that ~~the said~~ at least one of ~~the said second~~ pair of conveying rollers is
movable in a direction substantially parallel to a direction of separating ~~the said~~
third unit and ~~the said~~ fourth unit.

13. (Currently Amended) The sheet conveying apparatus as set forth in claim 12, wherein:

~~the said~~ roller supported by ~~the said~~ movable supporting member is a driven roller.

14. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a sheet conveying apparatus including a manual feed unit having:

- (i) a feed tray,
- (ii) a pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying
the sheet in a predetermined direction and ~~(ii)~~
- (iii) a supporting body for supporting ~~the said~~ pair of conveying rollers,
wherein the

said sheet conveying apparatus ~~conveying the~~ conveys said sheet placed on the feed tray
via a conveying path through which ~~the said~~ sheet is conveyed by ~~the said~~ pair of
conveying rollers,

~~the said~~ supporting body ~~including~~ includes:

- (a) a first unit having one of ~~the said~~ pair of conveying rollers and
- (b) a second unit having the other of ~~the said~~ pair of conveying rollers, and
~~the said~~ first unit and ~~the said~~ second unit being separable from each other.

15. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:

a sheet conveying apparatus including

(i) a first pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction,

(ii) a second pair of conveying rollers for sandwiching a sheet and conveying the sheet in a predetermined direction, the said first pair of the conveying rollers and the said second pair of conveying rollers facing each other, and

(iii) supporting bodies for respectively supporting the said first pair of conveying rollers and the said second pair of conveying rollers, wherein

the said sheet conveying apparatus conveying includes a first conveying path and a second conveying path, said first conveying path and said second conveying path facing one another, and

said sheet conveying apparatus conveys sheets a sheet through a said first conveying path and a said second conveying path, the said first conveying path being a conveying path through which a sheet is conveyed by the said first pair of conveying rollers, the said second conveying path being a conveying path through which a sheet is conveyed by the said second pair of conveying rollers, and said the second conveying path being connected with the said first conveying path in a downstream of the said first pair of conveying rollers provided in the said first conveying path,

the said supporting bodies including include:

(a) a third unit having supporting said the first pair of conveying rollers and one of the said second pair of conveying rollers, and

(b) a fourth unit having supporting the other of the said second pair of conveying rollers, and

the said third unit and the said fourth unit being are separable from each other.